ABSOLUTE

MARTIAN MANHUNTER™

DC

ALL IN

15+ TEEN+ 9

CAMP
RODRÍGUEZ

THE JOKER IS BACK...
AND WHAT'S BECOME OF HIM WILL SHOCK EVEN THE CAPED CRUSADER!

BATMAN #7

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ALL IN

A NEW STORY ARC BEGINS IN MARCH

Featuring an unbelievable **gatefold sequence** taking you inside the mind of pop culture's most dangerous villain

WRITTEN BY
MATT FRACTION

ART AND COVER BY
JORGE JIMÉNEZ

WE'VE *TRIED* TO COMMUNICATE.

JOHN

YOUR SILENCE HAS LEFT US *NO CHOICE.*

TRYING TO TEACH

REACH

WARN YOU!

BEGIN THE *ALIEN AUTOPSY,* AGENT LOWE!

IT'S AN AUTOPSY WHEN THE SUBJECT IS *DEAD,* AGENT HIGH.

WHEN THEY'RE STILL ALIVE, IT'S A *VIVISECTION.*

TRAPPED IN IDEOLOGICAL DUNGEON.

My mistake. BEGIN THE ALIEN *VIVISECTION,* AGENT LOWE!

SEPARATE, YOU

I

WE ARE WEAK

VULNERABLE

LOST!

FIND ME, JOHN!

--JONES. AGENT JOHN JONES, WITH THE FBI.

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT, AGENT JONES?

I HAVEN'T SEEN THE MARTIAN IN A WEEK.

I'M HERE TO TALK TO YOUR WIFE ABOUT A *DREAM* SHE HAD A WEEK OR SO AGO.

WHAT DID SHE DO NOW

I HOPE THEY'RE FOR HIM

...what?

NORMALLY I'D CALL THAT *HEALTHY PROGRESS...*

ONE *RED EYE?* KIND OF A BIG, GREEN VIBE-KILLER? HE INTERRUPTED A... *STEAMY DAYDREAM* YOU WERE HAVING LAST WEDNESDAY.

WHAT'S HE TALKING ABOUT, TIFFANY?

STEAMY?

I-I DON'T KNOW, ELIJAH!

I don't have to defend my dreams to him

WOW, TALK ABOUT TOXIC.

...BUT HIS REPLACEMENT'S EVEN **WORSE.**

SHE DOESN'T **RESPECT** HIM, AND HE DOESN'T TRUST HER. THIS THING'S ON **SHAKY GROUND!**

HE SHOWED UP THE SAME DAY THE MARTIAN DISAPPEARED.

MUST BE CONNECTED.

WE HAVEN'T BEEN **"CONNECTED"** IN A **LONG** TIME!

TAKE HIM AWAY, OFFICER! WHATEVER IT IS, **HE** DID IT!

THIS IS NEVER GOING TO WORK. **NOTHING EVER DOES.**

LOOKS KINDA **FAMILIAR,** HUH, PARTNER?

HE SEES THE WORST IN EVERYTHING.

WEAK

SELFISH

NEVER MIND. MY MISTAKE. SORRY TO BOTHER YOU.

I SEE THE **TRUTH** IN EVERY-THING. **SORRRRRRY** IF I HIT A NERVE, "MR. SENSITIVE".

IT'S THE SON I **REALLY** FEEL SORRY FOR. A CHOICE BETWEEN A TOXIC HOMELIFE AND A BROKEN HOME IS NO CHOICE AT ALL.

BOTH PUT HIM AT HIGHER RISK FOR ADDICTION, HOMELESSNESS, PRISON...

...YOU **NAME** IT.

CHIP CHIP

THEY CAN'T TAKE 'EM FROM ME! NOT CUZ UF'A STUUPID MISHTAKE!

TEXXTED THE WRONG PICTURE TO THE WRONG WIFE and now

"THE MAN WITH THREE FAMILIES"! NOW HE'S THE MAN WITH NO FAMILIES!

WHIFF

CRASH

ISN'T THIS SO PATHETICALLY CLICHÉ YOU WANT TO SET YOURSELF ON FIRE?

They won't let me see my kids, man! My KIDS!

MR. AKSUL... I'M REALLY JUST HERE ABOUT YOUR DREAMS--

THUMP

THE MARTIAN WOULD PROBABLY CALL IT A BAD IDEA AND GIVE IT A NUMBER.

NO, NOT AN IDEA. MORE OF A STATE OF MIND. I'M DESPAIR-THE-ZERO, YOUR NEW PARTNER.

YOUR LAST, BEST FRIEND. THE ONLY ONE YOU'LL EVER NEED.

YOU'RE NOT MY FRIEND.

EH?

Never mind. CALL ME IF YOU DREAM GREEN AGAIN.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IT WANTS.

YOU NEVER ASKED.

CRACKLE

I'M HERE TO DESTROY YOU, JOHN. PHYSICALLY, MENTALLY, SPIRITUALLY. AND, THROUGH YOU, YOUR ENTIRE MUNDANE REALITY.

MOTEL SUNRISE

I'M NOT LIKE THE LAST GUY. I'LL ALWAYS BE HONEST WITH YOU, PARTNER. I PROMISE.

SOME-ONE'S GOTTA BE, RIGHT?

RENATO TIRES

CHEAP

OPEN 24h

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

THE MAN ON DEATH ROW DOESN'T KNOW WHERE THE MARTIAN IS EITHER, BUT HE'S HAPPY TO TALK.

HE CAN USE THE **DISTRACTION.**

THANKS FOR YOUR TIME.

Oh, SURE. I DON'T GOT MUCH LEFT, BUT I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING WITH IT.

HE SPENDS ALL DAY AND ALL NIGHT PICTURING IT. **IMAGINING** THE WORST.

THERE'S THINGS WORSE THAN DEATH. **WAY** WORSE.

HE IMAGINES HOW IT'LL FEEL.

WILL IT HURT? OR WILL it be like GETTING HIGH?

ZAM

OH, IT'LL HURT. IT'LL HURT **SO MUCH.**

HE WONDERS WHAT HIS FINAL WORDS WILL BE. HIS FINAL THOUGHT. THE LAST THING HE **SEES.**

YOU KNOW, IN A FEW DAYS THEY'RE GONNA KILL ME IN A ROOM THEY CALL A ***THEATER,*** AND PEOPLE ARE GONNA COME FROM MILES AROUND TO ***WATCH.***

EVEN AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, I CAN'T GET MY HEAD AROUND THAT.

A SEA OF UNFRIENDLY FACES. THAT'S THE LAST THING HE'LL SEE.

IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE THIS SOFT-SPOKEN MAN DOING SOMETHING TO PUT HIM HERE.

HE KILLED A WOMAN AND TWO ELDERLY SECURITY GUARDS IN AN ARMED ROBBERY GONE WRONG. BLOOD AND CRYING GRANDKIDS EVERY-WHERE!

BRING BRING BRING

UH-OH! LATE FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT, JOHN!

$#@%!

2:45

DR. TRAPP 3PM

VIVISECTION

HIGH, *WAIT--*

RELAX, I'VE TAKEN THE STANDARD PSYCHIC PRECAUTIONS.

Whoa.

WHAT IS IT, HIGH? WHAT DO YOU SEE?

EXPERIENCE OF... SUPER-COMPRESSED QUANTUM GEOMETRY... TEN TRILLION INTERPRETATIONS OF BOB!

IMPREGNATED WITH-- TOO --MIND NOT-- SHAPE DON'T-- FIT--

GOOD GREEN EGGS! GREEN EGGS AND MAN!

WHITE NIGHT OVERSPLODE!

BZZZT!

BOOOOOOM

Huh. Okay. THAT WAS INTERESTING.

"EVER THINK ABOUT ENDING THINGS?"

SCREEEECH

DO YOU EVER HAVE THE URGE, AS YOU IDLE INTO WORK, TO TWIST INTO ONCOMING TRAFFIC?

P
Reserved parking

WALKING INTO YOUR THERAPIST'S OFFICE, DO YOU PICTURE YOURSELF SWALLOWING YOUR SIDEARM AND SAVING YOURSELF THE COPAY?

DOCTOR LAWRENCE TRAPP
MD, PSYCHIATRIST
2nd FLOOR

EVER PONDER THE DARKNESS?

SORRY I'M LATE. I'M WORKING ON A BIG--

THAT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT, MR. JONES. NO NEED TO MAKE EXCUSES HERE.

Well, IT'S NOT AN EXCUSE. IT'S AN EXPLANATION.

WHERE'S TYLER? I THOUGHT THIS WAS--

HE'S JUST IN THE OTHER ROOM, JOHN. *PLAYING.*

WE WANTED TO TALK TO YOU *ALONE* BEFORE WE BROUGHT HIM IN.

SHOULDA SWERVED INTO TRAFFIC, JOHN. WOULD HAVE SAVED YOURSELF SOME SUFFERING.

DO YOU KNOW WHY WE'RE HERE TODAY, JOHN?

YES. TO... TO FIX OUR MARRIAGE. TO GET OUR FAMILY BACK TO *NORMAL* AGAIN.

THEY GOT YOU HERE UNDER *FALSE PRETENSES,* PAL! THAT WOMAN IS NO HEALER!

HER MOUTH IS FULL OF *KNIVES...*

JOHN... HANDS MOVING... MOVING INSIDE... PLEASE...

BRIDGET TELLS ME YOU'VE BEEN COMMUNICATING WITH *ALIENS,* JOHN. THAT THEY TELL YOU TO *DO THINGS,* AND CAN READ THOUGHTS.

SHAME, FEAR, GUILT, CONCERN, LOVE

IS THAT *TRUE?*

ARE THERE ALIENS IN THE ROOM WITH US *RIGHT NOW?*

OUCH! SHE TOLD THIS *STRANGER* YOUR *SECRET!* BETRAYED YOUR *TRUST!*

KILL THE DOCTOR, JOHN! BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

NO!

OKAY. BUT DON'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN YOU.

ARE YOU OKAY, AGENT JONES?

WHAT SANE PERSON *COULD* BE OKAY?

BZZZT

Fine.

BOOOM

Look, I-I ADMIT, EVER SINCE THE COFFEE SHOP--

--MY *ACCIDENT*--

"*ACCIDENT*"! THAT'S A *GOOD* ONE!

NO, JOHN. NO! YOU STARTED ACTING WEIRD BEFORE WE EVEN ***CAME*** TO MIDDLETON.

SOMETHING HAPPENED IN D.C. AND YOU WON'T TELL ME ***WHAT.***

BZZZT

NICOTINE GUM 4mg

LET'S TAKE A *LOOK.*

MY KIND OF MEMORY-- PAINTED WITH SHAME, OUTRAGE, OFFICE ANTISEPTIC.

--CHARGING YOU WITH BRIBERY, CORRUPTION, AND CONSPIRACY. OR YOU CAN SAVE US ALL SOME EMBARRASSMENT, TAKE THE TRANSFER, AND DISAPPEAR.

NOTHING HAPPENED IN D.C.

I got transferred.

YOU'RE GETTING GOOD AT LYING, JOHN. YOU ALMOST HAD *ME* CONVINCED, AND I LIVE IN YOUR HEAD!

"BEAUTIFUL STUFF."

BZZZZZZT

VIVISECTION

I'D LIKE TO SEE MY *SON* NOW. I THOUGHT THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE *FAMILY* COUNSELING--

AGENT JONES, I BELIEVE YOU ARE IN THE MIDST OF A MASSIVE PSYCHOTIC BREAK. YOUR SYMPTOMS ARE CLASSICALLY SCHIZOPHRENIC. THE VOICES, THE *"POWERS,"* THE ALIENS, SHADOWS, AND SHADES.

JOHN, I DON--

THEY'LL *NEVER* LET YOU SEE YOUR SON AGAIN, JOHN!

SSSSSSS

HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE *SHADOWS...?*

THEY'RE GOING TO CUT OUT YOUR BRAIN AND REPLACE IT WITH ONE THAT *WORKS* RIGHT!

JOHN, *please,* SIT DOWN...

IN THE GRIP OF A DELUSION, YOU'RE *DANGEROUS.*

WHY'D YA HAVE TO GO AND DO IT, KID?

NO! I mean... YOU WOULDN'T MEAN TO! BUT... JOHN, YOU CARRY A GUN. PLEASE UNDERSTAND...

YOU THINK I'D HURT OUR SON?!

THEY THINK YOU'RE A MONSTER, JOHN. ARE THEY WRONG?

BUT YOU SAID THIS WAS-- if I came we could-- "EMERGENCY SURGERY TO SAVE OUR MARRIAGE." THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID ON THE PHONE.

THIS FEELS MORE LIKE A FUNERAL.

"OR AN AUTOPSY."

CRUNCH CRUNCH CR...

BUT YOU... WOULDN'T DO THIS. YOU WOULD HAVE TALKED TO ME. THIS ISN'T YOU.

SHE DID DO IT. SHE'S DOING IT RIGHT NOW.

I'M DESPERATE, JOHN! I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO--

NO! NONE OF THIS IS YOU! NONE OF IT! IT HAS TO BE...

DESPERO. THE WHITE MARTIAN. THE GREEN MARTIAN.

SOME-ONE'S DONE SOMETHING TO YOU!

JOHN!

YOU'RE RIGHT, JOHN. I CAN SHOW YOU, IF YOU WANT. MARTIAN VISION'S ON THE FRITZ, BUT I THINK YOU'RE READY FOR SOMETHING BETTER...

DESPERO-VISION

SEE EXISTENCE FOR THE PAINFUL, EMPTY THING IT REALLY IS!

SEE PEOPLE'S TRUE COLORS-- BLUE!

COMPREHEND THE SINISTER MEANING BEHIND EVERY SEEMINGLY INNOCUOUS STATEMENT OR ACTION!

I'M DOING THIS BECAUSE I LOVE YOU.

I DON'T LOVE YOU, JOHN. I NEVER DID.

SEE HOW PEOPLE SEE YOU! HOW THEY'VE ALWAYS SEEN YOU! HOW THEY ALWAYS WILL SEE YOU!

Oh god. TYLER. TYLER!

CALM DOWN, AGENT JONES!

TYLER!

NO.

YES! I TOLD YOU I'D SHOW YOU THE TRUTH, DIDN'T I, PAL?

HE'S BEEN SO MUCH BETTER, JOHN. *SO MUCH* BETTER SINCE YOU'VE BEEN *GONE.* HE STARTED *TALKING.* HE TALKS TO ME *ALL THE TIME* NOW.

YOU WERE THE PROBLEM. WE'RE BETTER OFF WITHOUT YOU.

Only... I CAN ONLY HEAR IT IN MY HEAD. I CAN HEAR HIM *ALL THE TIME,* JOHN!

GO WITH THEM. *Please--*

NO!

RUN, JOHN! RUN!

HAHAHA

HOW...

...WHY DID I COME HERE?

YOU CAME HERE FOR **HELP**, JOHN.

JONES? YOU ALL RIGHT?

REMEMBER?

MY FAMILY, THEY HAVE... IT'S MY SON, MY SON!

Hell, ARE YOU HIGH?

GO ***HOME.*** SLEEP IT OFF. YOU LOOK LIKE YOU NEED THE REST.

BUT YOU CAME TO THE WRONG PLACE. YOU **SEE** THAT NOW.

CIK RAC! KRAC! KRA CIK RAC! KRAC! KRAC!

Y-yeah. Okay. I can certainly see that.

Everything is *perfect.* Everything is *just perfect*

I CAN SEE WHY THE GREEN ONE CHOSE YOU. YOU'RE **PERFECT.**

CHOSE ME? IT DIDN'T *CHOOSE*

OH, **COME ON!** YOU MUST HAVE FIGURED IT OUT BY **NOW.** YOU THINK IT WAS A COINCIDENCE YOU WERE AT THAT COFFEE SHOP ON THAT DAY AT THAT MOMENT?

YOU THINK YOU-- **ANY** OF YOU-- HAVE A **CHOICE** IN **ANY** OF THIS?

...A TETHER, SIR. AN ANCHOR IN THE PHYSICAL WORLD. AGENT RAINBOW IS FOLLOWING IT BACK AS WE SPEAK.

IS IT ***AMERICAN?*** THE ANCHOR?

YES, SIR. AN FBI AGENT NAMED--

JOHN...

...JOHN JONES...

THEY'RE **PLAYING** WITH YOU, JOHN. MOVING YOU THIS WAY AND THAT. PULLING OUT PIECES. MAKING PARTS OF YOU LIGHT UP.

YOUR LIFE IS A CHEAP PLASTIC TOY TO THEM.

ALL OF THEM.

BUT, SORRY TO SAY...

...THEY'VE GOTTEN **BORED** WITH YOU, BUDDY...

The Starlight Motel

...THEY'RE THROWING YOU AWAY.

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To be CONTINUED.

THE FINAL BATTLE FOR THE HEART OF APOKOLIPS!

DC

KO #5

A FIVE-ISSUE EVENT

Written by
SCOTT SNYDER

Art and cover by
JAVI FERNÁNDEZ

FIND OUT
WHO IS CROWNED
KING OMEGA
IN MARCH

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DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

ALL IN

TRINITY
DAUGHTER OF WONDER WOMAN

INTERVIEW WITH TOM KING

Writer Tom King and artist Daniel Sampere introduced Trinity in 2023 as the daughter of Wonder Woman and Steve Trevor. The character (familiarly known as Lizzie) instantly captivated fans and headlined her own six-issue series, the aptly titled *Trinity: Daughter of Wonder Woman*, from King and artist Belén Ortega—featuring Lizzie at three different ages in a time-trekking adventure intersecting with some of the most pivotal moments in DC history. With *Trinity: Daughter of Wonder Woman* available soon as a softcover collected edition, King reflects on what makes this story so special.

Tom, it's fair to say you're primarily known for writing a darker type of story at DC, and *Trinity* feels like you're having a different type of fun. What did this story mean to you and how does it stand out from your other DC work?

Trinity is hands-down one of my favorite writing experiences I've ever had. Sometimes I write things—*Mister Miracle*, *Supergirl: Woman of Tomorrow*—and there's a little magic in it, and when it's coming out I can see how it's connecting with the audience, see how it's connecting with me, see how it's connecting with my children. *Trinity* has that.

I love my sad, depressing comics, don't get me wrong. But I also love a different kind of comic. I grew up on these wonderful things I'd read in the newspaper that made me smile and laugh and were silly—and were actually kind of deep. If you read *Peanuts*, if you read *Calvin and Hobbes*, it's funny and silly day-to-day, but the whole thing has an incredible message about imagination and depression and relating to other people and hope in the world. All that stuff is in there, but it's disguised behind a warm, welcoming humor. I wanted to make a book that did that.

It's fun seeing the tone of the story, and how you've juxtaposed it with past DC events—including going back to territory you're very familiar with in the Bat/Cat wedding.

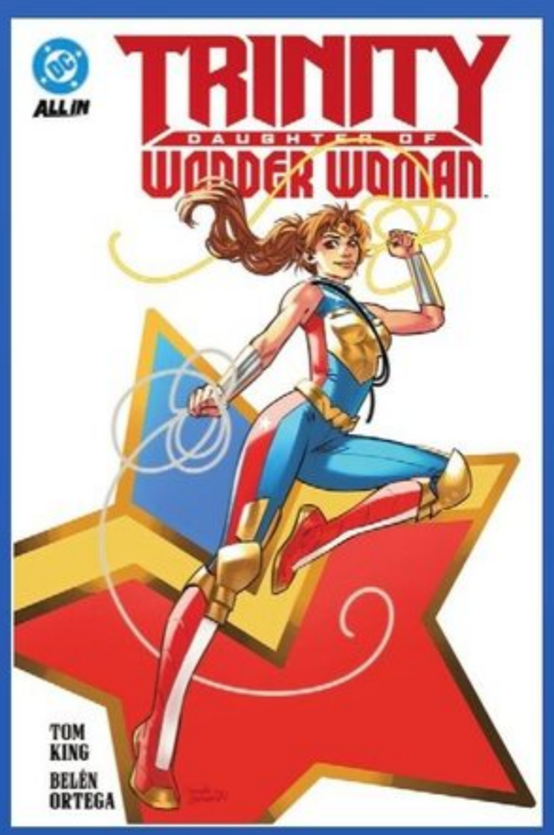
We live in very heavy times. You always want to give people a break from that. That's part of the power of comics.

But on the other side of it, of all the books I'm writing, this is the one that makes me cry. There are these very emotional moments about these three young women going through this experience.

They're trying to reconnect with their father. They're also looking to connect with each other through the unique experience of being alone in the world—being the daughter of Wonder Woman. How unique that is, how isolating that can be. There are these moments of utter revelation where they find each other, and it connects you to a deeper emotion. While you're laughing at silly dog jokes.

Speaking of dogs, the homage variant covers featuring corgis are incredible.

I went to Belén Ortega—who is brilliant—and asked, what do you want to draw? "I want a samurai story and a corgi story." I was like, "How am I going to do a story about samurai and corgis?" It became so much fun. It started with this utterly bizarre problem I did not know how I could solve and became the solution for the whole thing.



TRINITY
5
DAUGHTER of WONDER WOMAN
ALL IN
a Corgi in the Family
Part Two
Robin is about to die at the hands of the Joker.
And Wonder Girl can do nothing about it.
Or can she?
by KING, ORTEGA & GUERRERO

READ THE *TRINITY: DAUGHTER OF WONDER WOMAN* COLLECTED EDITION, AVAILABLE IN MARCH!

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